

WASHINGTON COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING
ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
September 10, 2018

The Washington County Office for the Aging Advisory Council met on September 10, 2018 at AJ's Fine Food and Spirits Restaurant in Granville, New York. The meeting was called to order and the previous minutes were approved. In attendance: Sharon Dunn, Alice Coldwell, Marie McCotter, Susan Perry, Gretchen Stark, Sandra Lufkin, Patricia Provost, Pat Cantanucci, Max McDonnell, Jodie Smith, Patty Hunt, Naomi Stimpson-Phillips and Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell.

Program Updates

- We welcomed new council member Marie McCotter of Hartford.
- Gina went over the Senior Restaurant Dining Program rules and regulations. Alice Coldwell of Hebron stated that it is a great program for socializing with friends in the community.
- Gina stated that the Nutrition Program will still be doing the "pop-up" events in Caitlyn Johnston's absence. But the newsletter will be put on hold. "Pop-up" events will be posted both on our web page and Facebook. Alice Coldwell of Hebron informed the group that any "pop-up" event held at the Cambridge Library are free, as the Friends of the Library; pays the \$3.00 donation charge for anyone who attends.
- Update regarding Stephanie Ball's monthly mailings; Alice Coldwell of Hebron stated that the Jackson Town Clerk put an article in The Eagle advising anyone who would like an emailed version of the mailing that the town clerk could do that for them.
- Gina went over that September is fall prevention month and handed out fliers that included check lists of what to look for to make your home safer. An important device to have is Medical Alert and resources to help with cost was discussed. Pat Provost of Whitehall asked if the OFA Medical Alert service had a cost share. The answer is that the EISEP funded Personal Emergency Response Services (Medical Alert Services) do not have a cost share.
- Gina discussed the Legal Services Initiative (LSI) for September 13, 2018 is about IEP's and Rights in Education for Disabled Children and Parental Supports. The schedule for the LSI events for the rest of the year was handed out. A reminder that this is open to the public, not just Washington County residences.
- Gina announced that the OFA Public Hearing will be held at the October 12, 2018 at the Senior Luncheon. She will address concerns brought up throughout the year. She will also be presenting about the lack of transportation in Washington County and the difficulties that are faced because of the rural areas. Marie McCotter of Hartford stated that she volunteers for RSVP and they lack the volunteers they need for the same reasons.
- Gina went over the SAVVY Caregiver Program that will run for five weeks starting October 11, 2018 from 2:00-3:30pm at Fort Hudson Nursing Home.
- Gina informed us that the topic of the public hearing being held on September 18, 2018 from 7:00-8:30pm at the Kingsbury Volunteer Hose Company will be affordable housing and homelessness. The myth is that Washington County has no homeless people because they are unseen. Highland Planning will be collecting data to help with solutions. Alice Coldwell stated that Open Doors has a great program with wrap around services.
- Gina finished up with the open enrollment of Medicare Plans will be October 15-December 7, 2018. She explained how the Aging and Disability Resource Center can help find plans and it is a free service.

Recent Events

- The only recent activity was the Senior Picnic held on July 13, 2018. We served 350 meals and the most common complaints were that the burgers were overcooked and the sounds system needs improvement. Gina stated that her and Max are considering blue tooth speakers for next year.

Upcoming Events

- October 3rd is the Fall Festival – at the Kingsbury Firehouse -we are still seeking local vendors. WCKM will do a live broadcast from 10-12pm. Senator Little will be endorsing event and sending postcards to anyone 50 yrs. and older.
- Council of Seniors Luncheon and Public Hearing – Friday, October 12th at the Hartford Firehouse. This will include Laura Chadwick discussing real property tax exemptions. Linda Berkley doing a journal reading segment. There will be a 50/50 raffle and turkey luncheon.

Open Discussion

- Max will be reaching out to all clubs for raffle donations for the Fall Festive on October 3rd. He also went over the 2019 calendar of events.
- Susan Perry of Hampton discussed Hanes House of Hope and its need for volunteers, or if you are unable to volunteer perhaps you could do a fund raiser. She stated that Hanes House of Hope is affiliated with High Peak Hospice and provides all meals, meds and comfort care for individuals on hospice. They have 2 beds and are always full and are open to all areas not just Washington County.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and that motion was seconded.

Next meeting is December 3, 2018 @ 10am at the Washington County Sheriff's Office.